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# ERADICATING HOOKWORM DISEASE IN VIRGINIA.

Ten thousand six hundred persons were treated for hookworm disease in Virginia in 1912, according to the third annual report of the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission just issued. In North Carolina, 57,991 cases were treated in the same period. In the eleven States in which the work is going on, there were last year 238,755 persons treated. The total number of persons treated for the disease in Virginia in the three years since this great movement for the reclamation of human life began was 19,468, while in North Carolina it was 111,572. For each person treated last year, the commission expended 77 cents. There were in 1912, 35,732 microscopic examinations in Virginia, and 151,144 in North Carolina. In the three years' work, the total number of persons treated in the eleven States was 392,556. There were 432,464 microscopic examinations in 1912.

In the infection survey in Virginia, nine counties were included, and 6,300 children were examined, 2,814 or 44.7 per cent of them having been found infected. In the sanitary survey of 1912 in Virginia, forty-eight counties were embraced and 10,915 rural homes inspected. It should be noted here that the number of persons microscopically examined in making the infection survey does not equal the total number of microscopic examinations made in a State, for all microscopic examinations have those of rural children from six to eighteen years of age are excluded from the report of the infection survey. Nor is the percentage of infection reported as a result of the infection survey given as the percentage of infection for the population of the county, "since the degree of infection among rural children from six to eighteen years of age is much greater than the average infection for the whole population."

The degree of infection varies greatly, ranging in percentage from 2.5 to 94. In 230 counties of eleven States, out of 158,555 country children microscopically examined, 75,572, or 50.9 per cent, were found to be infected.

The figures as to the work of the hookworm disease dispensaries in Virginia show that a total of 5,654 persons were treated at them in 1912, and that the total number of treatments was 15,156. Eight counties—Bedford, Henry, King and Queen, Essex, Gloucester, Franklin, Patrick and Caroline—operated dispensaries for thirty-six weeks, the total amount appropriated for this work by the counties being \$460. Appropriations have been made, but the work has not yet been started in Appomattox, Roanoke, Tazewell, Lee, Wise and Dickenson.

In 1912, 365 physicians in Virginia were personally instructed as to hookworm disease. Eighteen lectures were delivered to physicians on the subject, 560 physicians were reached, 6,300 letters and circulars and 8,900 bulletins were sent out, and 194 physicians are now treating the disease, while 1,437 cases have been reported by physicians.

Continuing this campaign of popular education, 419 teachers were visited, 950 were reached by letter, 9,600 by bulletin or leaflet, and 2,150 at institutes. Four hundred and ten lectures were delivered on the disease, and it is estimated that 46,550 persons were reached by them. One hundred and sixty-five thousand bulletins have been distributed in Virginia. Fifty newspapers have been visited personally, twenty-five letters were written for the press, and 216 articles were supplied for publication.

In 1912 in Virginia there were 15,227 clinical and 25,956 microscopic examinations, a total of 41,123.

The expenditures in 1912 in the campaign for the eradication of hookworm disease in Virginia consisted of \$509 by the counties, \$750 by the State, and \$13,677.16 by the commission, a total of \$14,927.16.

The infection survey in Virginia, based on an examination of at least 200 children between the ages of six and eighteen years taken at random from the country, yielded the following percentages of infection in the following counties: Bedford, 22.7; Caroline, 34.9; Essex, 55.4; Franklin, 42.8; Greensville, 66.5; Henry, 49.3; Middlesex, 25.7; Northumberland, 14.1; Patrick, 66.6.

In the number of counties surveyed, in the number of children examined in the infection survey, in the number of counties in the sanitary survey, in the number of rural homes inspected, in the number of microscopic examinations, in the number of dispensaries, in the amount appropriated by counties, in the length of the dispensary campaign, in the number of microscopic examinations at dispensaries, in the number of persons treated at dispensaries, and in the number of persons treated, Virginia shows marked increase. In the sanitary survey, 2,451 rural homes were inspected in 1911 as against 10,115 in 1912. The number of microscopic examinations

went from 6,936 in 1911 to 25,956 in 1912. The number of persons treated at dispensaries was 594 in 1911 and 5,654 in 1912.

"To put a stop to soil pollution is at once the most difficult and the most important result to be accomplished in this work," declares Wickliffe Rose, administrative secretary of the Rockefeller commission, who adds that "worthy of special note" is the "systematic and aggressive activity in the interest of general sanitation" displayed by the Virginia State Department of Health, at whose instance the General Assembly of 1912 enacted a law providing radical changes for the better in the sanitary conditions at public schools. The report declares with reference to sanitation that in the Virginia towns "much has already been accomplished, and progress is continuous and satisfactory." Rural sanitation also shows distinct advance, and "there has been a marked increase in the activity and efficiency of the county health officers throughout the State," while "in a number of counties salaries have been increased and sanitary work much extended."

It is impossible to overestimate the value of this work of reclaiming human life in the Southern States. It has restored life and energy and hope to countless thousands; it has taken the afflicted boy and girl, transformed them from puny and anemic skeletons into rugged and robust children, and prepared them for efficient and healthy manhood and womanhood. The eradication of the hookworm disease has ended the retardation of the mental and physical growth of an army of children. Upon the prosecution of this work hangs the economic prosperity, the lives and the health of thousands. The work of the Rockefeller commission in Virginia is a powerful factor in the true upbuilding of the State, just as in the entire group of States it reaches it constitutes an incalculable constructive force, and a mighty instrument of regeneration.

## A STATE-WIDE TAX CONFERENCE WILL COME.

Obedient to its immortal habit of having at the moon, one of the few reactionary newspapers in Virginia has registered its pessimistic protest against the State Tax Conference to be called to meet here in July by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, asserting that the conclusions of such an assembly would have no binding effect. No binding legal effect certainly—but aroused public opinion can more forcibly bind legislators than all the laws. The most powerful political organization in Virginia, controlling while the people sleep, can in no moral or legal way bind certain legislators, but there is always a singular and complete coincidence of their opinions with that of said organization. Is there any convention short of one of the people in their sovereign capacity that can bind legislators in this Commonwealth? The State Democratic Convention has time after time committed itself to this or that policy, but Democratic legislators have not considered themselves bound accordingly to the support of such a policy.

No one has held for a moment that the State Tax Conference was devised with a view to binding legislators. Its purpose is to crystallize public opinion into a demand for some effective legislative program of tax reform. Concert of action must come before any solution of the problem can be attained.

The value and efficiency of State-wide conferences in the interest of desired public policies and of State-wide co-operation in securing the adoption of such policies has been proved in this Commonwealth. Consider the recent amendment to the State Constitution which enables municipalities to adopt new and simplified forms of government. It resulted from a State conference of the various municipalities in which, after differences had been discussed, a definite program was agreed upon. The forces of municipal reform presented a united front before the General Assembly, asked for reform in their common behalf and obtained it. The Lynchburg News is "profoundly convinced that if it had not been for the organization of the reform sentiment, as happened in this case, and the hearty co-operation between the cities that thus resulted, the constitutional amendment would not have been enacted. Too many plans, too many differences in view, none perhaps vital; too much confusion and misconception prevailed to interfere with achievement until these conferences were organized and held."

A State tax conference will serve as a clearing-house for the various and conflicting opinions as to the proper method for establishing justice and equality in taxation.

## THE HARMLESS OYSTER.

"I could wish that the number of dangerous sources of milk supply was as small and that the percentage of pure, wholesome milk was as great as the proportion of wholesome, safe oysters that reach our tables," is Dr. Carl L. Alberg's ringing defense of the delicious and nutritious bivalve that nowhere grows so large and fine as in Virginia. To alter an old phrase a bit, this defense from Sir Hubert Stanley is defense indeed, for Dr. Alberg is Dr. Harvey W. Wiley's official successor as protector-general of the nation's health. As chief chemist of the Federal Department of Agriculture, Dr. Alberg goes on record as saying that only in "very rare cases" does the oyster cause sickness. Local authorities have attempted to escape responsibility for a polluted water or milk supply by blaming disease on the oyster, he says, and a suspicion of this sort, once given currency, is not easily allayed.

Polluted oyster beds undoubtedly exist, on the other hand, and Dr. Alberg announces that the United States

Department of Agriculture is preparing to find them and control interstate shipments from them. The number of such beds is relatively small. Before the search is begun, oyster growers should take action against men who sell contaminated bivalves. Such is the council of this good friend of good oysters. The course is indicated by mere self-protection.

So far as Virginia is concerned, Virginians have always known that Virginia oysters are safely edible the year through. The fact that fever is more prevalent in summer, when few oysters are eaten than in winter, when they are a common article of diet, has been enough to convince us that there is no connection between typhoid and the oyster. In Virginia the oyster would be generally consumed all the year round if it were not for the fact that bacon and greens, onions, kale, cymilings, fried chicken, corn on the cob, strawberries, blackberry dumplings, butter beans, and like delicacies can only be had in the summer, and, when devoured, leave no room for the oyster, which, at best, is a jealous food, unwillingly sharing the "innards" of the epicure with anything else. It can be said without possibility of contradiction, that if the Virginian possessed capacity for the summer dishes and delicious bivalves at the same time, he would gladly eat them both, but as it is, when the oyster offers to come upon the scene, after an old Virginia summertime meal, the Virginian is compelled to throw up his hands in the sorrowful protestation of the ancient Scot, "Willing, but unable."

## A WOMAN OF HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS.

A witness to many historical scenes who had personally been associated with many historical personages was buried last week in Henderson, N. C. She was Mary Elizabeth Smith, widow of Orrin Randolph Smith, of Henderson, N. C. Her first husband was Edward Jacquelin Studied McCampbell, of Lexington, who studied law in the office of John Letcher, war Governor of Virginia, and later became his partner. The second husband of Mrs. Smith, we are told, designed the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy. He was a veteran of three wars; the Mexican War, Albert Sidney Johnston's campaign in Utah, in 1855, and the War Between the States. Mrs. Smith's father, Willis Foulke Riddick, had eighteen nephews in the Confederate States army, and his rooms at the "Old Powhatan," in Richmond, were their headquarters. When in Richmond in wartime, Mrs. Smith's home was the Governor's mansion. She attended the inaugural reception to President and Mrs. Davis as Mrs. Letcher's guest. She is said to have been the only woman present when Governor Letcher took the oath of office. She was present when President Davis attended St. John's the Sunday after his inauguration. Her neighbor across the street when she lived in Lexington was Major Thomas Jonathan Jackson, who was a warm personal friend of her husband, Mrs. Smith. Like many women of her day and generation, was an excellent Latin scholar, and before she was eighteen she knew Blackstone thoroughly and "could have passed the bar examination with honor and credit."

## THE CHURCH AND EUGENICS.

Every child born into this world possesses an almost divine right of being born with a sound mind and a sound body. The world-old blinding of eyes to that right does not condone its violation. The social conscience has belled at last, and society, in obedience to the supreme law of self-preservation, has determined to protect future generations against the consequences of sin. The responsibility lies upon church and State, and the church, as it always has done, leads. The State must follow.

The Episcopal Council of the Diocese of Virginia has courageously faced a terrible fact and discharged its solemn duty in declaring that it is its sense that "for the sake of the protection of women, and for the sake of a higher appeal to men, it is desirable that ministers of the diocese, as rapidly as they can secure such co-operation from the physicians of their communities as shall satisfy them that their position will be effective, either by themselves or in conjunction with ministers of other churches, shall declare their determination to perform the marriage service only when the man to be married shall secure from the family physician of his intended bride or from some other physician certified to by the bride's physician, a certificate of freedom from a communicable disease of immoral origin." The primacy of this particular church in boldly and firmly seeking to safeguard innocent womanhood and childhood emphasizes the duty of the church to demand and the power of the church to establish social righteousness.

It is no easy thing to right a wrong of the centuries, but it is a very high and noble and splendid thing to begin. It is a heroic task so to reorder society that the iniquity of the fathers may not be visited upon the children unto the third and fourth generations, but it is not impossible. This ancient sin against civilization must and will end. Truth is driving darkness and evil before it.

The painter never lived who could paint the fair mistress of the Orange Observer.

Vice-President Marshall's silence is getting to be positively loud.

Why don't the Knights of the Morning After unveil a tablet on the spot where the first mint julep was mixed in Richmond?

That is poetical justice, sending a bigamist to Marion.

The only contribution Richmond has made to these modern governmental methods is that noble device called "Nogorum."

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

You Can't Always Tell. Bob always stood at the head of his class. A hardworking student was he. Quiet, reserved and a friend for detail. A model of propriety. He never took part in the roistering. But buried his nose in a book. He wore bone-rimmed spectacles, dressed all in black. And had a funeral look. He walked above all the things of this earth. He had not a moment for play. He boned on his studies for all he was worth. And thought 'twas a sin to be gay. You ask what became of this pious young man. Who was a well-known virtue rank? I just heard that he was confined for ten years. For forging a check on a bank.

Jim always stood at the foot of his class. His mind wandered far from his work. For he was the daredevil boy of the school. And oft was caught up with a jerk. He started most all of the gay campus pranks. He always had time for a tout; The folks always knew there was mischief in sight. Whenever gay Jim was about. The coeds adored him and followed him 'round. To see what fool thing he'd do next. The faculty was in a constant uproar; He kept the professors all vexed. You ask what became of this scape-grace young chap. Who kept the whole school in a row? Oh, Jim, he has changed quite a bit since those days. For he is a minister now.

According to Uncle Abner. A one-horse grocery store or a one-horse barber shop is all right, but Amos Butts says a one-horse livery stable ain't much good, especially when there is a funeral. Miss Amy Pringle has got the hives and a new switch, and between scratchin' and fixin' up her back hair she is kept so busy that she don't have no time to run her millinery emporium.

Miss Lottie Bibbins, who runs the dancing school, is introducing a new dance. It is called the St. Vitus. Reginald Hickley, our actor, who is spending the summer here with his mother, says he never played in vaudeville and doesn't even know what St. Vitus is. Reginald has played in Proutyville several times in the "work." This is getting to be quite a metropolitan place. Hank Tumma trimmed the fringe off the bottom of his pants in Lem Schaefer's feed cutter Thursday. Fine feathers don't make fine birds, but they make fine picture hats. Uncle Ezra is certainly an ancient cooker. He kin remember when folks used to ride on bicycles. It must be tough for an actor to join a stock company and have to travel around with a lot of sheep, cows and hogs.

It is easy to accumulate money in this country. After a feller gits his first million there's nothin' to it. Long, flowin' whiskers used to be a sign of great knowledge, but now they are a sign that a feller ain't got no chin.

Grandma Bibbins read in the paper that there was some magnificent spectacles at the Hippodrome, and she says she wishes she had been there to gits a pair.

New York architects have formed a union. Probably they will draw plans for nothing but union depots.

What is really needed is a muffer for the neighbor's lawn mower.

Opium smokers, policemen and idiots are barred from becoming members of the Chinese parliament. Some of the other republics are not so particular.

The cantaloupe howlers ought to be reined to howl into a phonograph and sit down and listen to it three or four hours a day.

An immigrant with \$14,000 has landed in New York, which is one of the very poorest places to land with that much money.

## Voice of the People

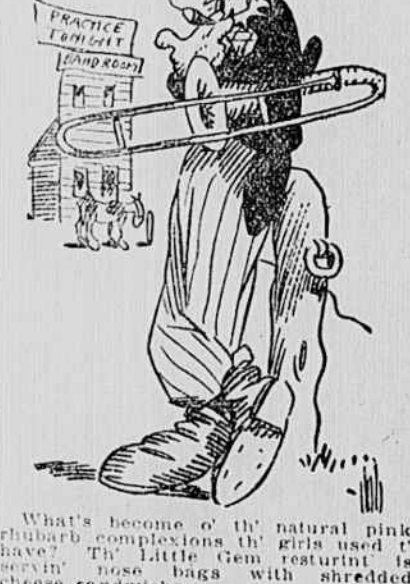
### Mountain Industrial Education.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—The regular meeting of the Virginia Mountain Industrial Educational Association was held in the parlors of the Mountain Club Wednesday, May 21. The reports were of unusual interest. This association for the past three years has been assisting the Grundy School, in Buchanan County. There is no school which has shown more marked progress in every respect than this. Opened in September, 1909, with twelve pupils, the session closed in April, 1913, with more than 100 enrolled and twenty boarding pupils. Two young Presbyterian ministers who had been engaged in mission work in that remote

### FLIES!

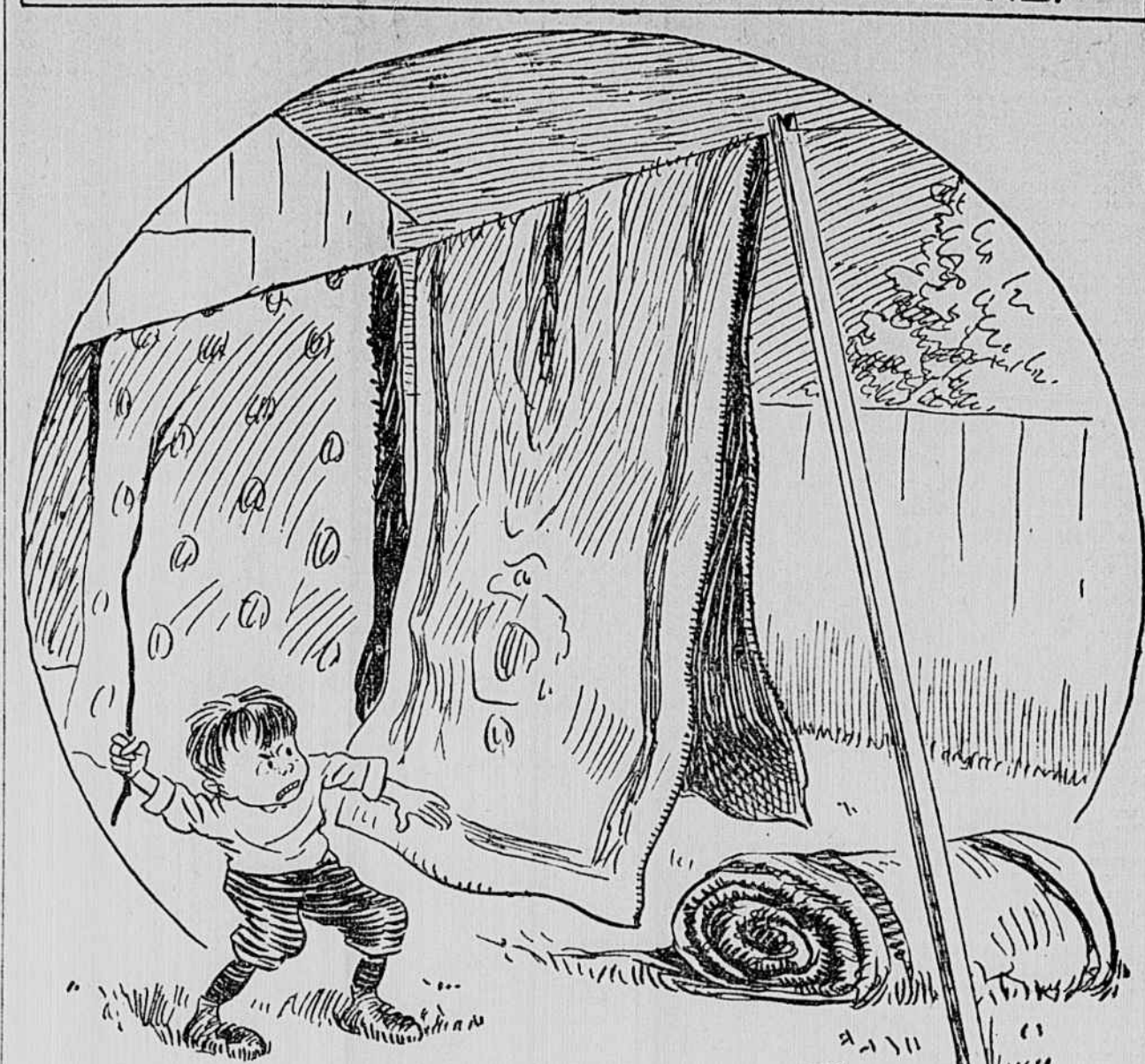
Horse manure is the principal breeding place for flies. It can be made sterile with coal oil, carbolic acid, copperas water or dry lime by mixing thoroughly. Horsemen, stablemen, owners of horses and sanitary inspectors, pay attention! Cut this out. Let 1913 be a flyless year.

### Abe Martin



What's become of the natural pinkish complexion of the girls used to have? The little German restaurant is serving those bags with shredded cheese sandwiches.

## WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND.



## SATURDAY MORNING

### Richmond Chamber of Commerce, and I have always felt, if all of those who are possessed of a goodly quantity of this world's goods would be as self-sufficient as many are, that the work done in the development of our city would be greatly increased.

T. M. CARRINGTON, President.

### Richmond, May 23.

The Valley Honors Cadet Wise. To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Coming from the Valley of Virginia, with the pungent odor of its war-scarred plains still lingering after a half-century of adverse fate, recalling it, too, as the landing place, before and after the founding of the republic, of those whose composite human elements have united to form my living being proud of her traditions and of her glory, I assumed, apparently as a lone unit, the grave responsibility of representing the Valley of the Shenandoah—at the funeral service of Cadet John S. Wise, one of the few remaining Virginia Military Institute cadets who, in that splendid charge with the cold steel of the bayonet, won the "Napoleon crown" crest at New Market.

Unknown, unrecorder, who who assembled to do him honor, I walked beside his hearse and saw them where the mocking bird and the robin will sing above him, and the river runs beyond him; with the green of the trees and the scent of the roses around him, and the warm, kind earth to enshroud him—with the dominant thought that they were laying away one who fought "mit Siegeln" at New Market and pushed him back from the upper Valley.

His political course I never approved—outside of his native State he won fame and fortune—but in all his career he achieved no higher fame than as a boy cadet he followed the flag of our dreaming at New Market, and by this one taken Virginians will remember him and forget his fault.

At thirty-six years ago I attended the military funeral of another Virginia Military Institute (New Market) cadet, one whose tragic death cast a gloom over the community, of which he had been a bright, particular star, whose many carriage and stately bearing still linger.

The famous Stonewall Brigade Band, at that time composed in part of those who had marched with Jackson and the old brigade on bloody fields, played as his funeral dirge, "In the Sweet By and By" while the West Augusta Guard, which he had recently commanded, was the military escort to the funeral of Virginia Military Institute Cadet S. Travers Phillips, a comrade and friend of John S. Wise at New Market and the University of Virginia.

Virginia will honor the New Market cadet in the person of John Sergeant Wise.

### A Hint to the Social Workers.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Virginia owes it to her future citizens to face the sex question fully. This subject will not receive proper attention until people stop blushing and saying "Shush" whenever a serious-minded individual wishes to discuss the matter in a sensible manner. Untold misery will be avoided, just as soon as the community at large allows itself to be informed. Ignorance has caused more woe than the average citizen can conceive of, which is saying a great deal and which can be demonstrated easily to an acute mind.

One week ago to-night the writer attended a performance of "Damaged Goods" at the Fulton Theatre, New York. "Stronger than a sermon" may justly be applied to the production. Would that the intelligent portion of every community in the United States could witness a performance of "Damaged Goods." The idea of requiring a health certificate before marriage would then assume reality.

Secretary Charles K. Gilbert, of the Social Service Commission of the Diocese of New York, has secured opinions from the clergy upon the wisdom of following a program which would foster marriages and safeguard them by the requirement of health certificates, and found the pulpit six to one in favor of such a campaign on the part of the Episcopal Church. Rev. Mr. Gilbert (whose address is 416 Lafayette Place) realized that dealing with sex matters calls for the utmost wisdom, "but vice," he said in his request to the clergy for advice, "is working fearful havoc upon that very pulpit which it is the function of the church to conserve."

Richard Bennett, who will join the

### Lucille La Verne Stock Company during the early part of June, has been playing the leading role in "Damaged Goods." Richmond may consider herself fortunate to secure him at this time. If the social workers of the city will get together, they can easily make it worth while for the local players (under the direction of Richard Bennett) to give several performances of "Damaged Goods."

GASTON LICHTENSTEIN.

### The Environmental Status of the Fly.

Who said it wasn't right. To swat the little fly, which seeks right in the middle of a great big pumpkin pie?

Where is the old-time notion. That the fly which God had made Was but the nation's poison. And made for some great good?

We always thought the little fly Took up the awful stench. And that we all would surely die If we the fly should quench.

We never thought of all these things That scientific research brings. But now a one and all will buy Our swatters—drugs will swat the fly.

So well swat him in the pudding. And well swat him in the pie. And when the flies they are no more We'll have a great big sign.

And if, perchance, when that time comes Some omen nunsance overruns. Like in olden times they vanished cats, Then need them to catch the rats.

We'll sing: "Oh! for the swatted flies. Oh! for the days of which we dream; How sweet it would share our pie! And feed you on rich cream."

Richmond. MRS. E. DE PUE.

### Mothers' Day.

We should not need a "Mothers' Day." The memory to keep Of one who first taught us to say, "I love you," is a thing that will never fade. If I should die before I wake I pray the Lord my soul To take to him in the grave, but take it where the streets are gold.

Forget? We could not, if we could. Her toil-worn hand on her face. Forget? We would not if we could. Her patience and her grace. These linger in our memory, tho' Some of us stood beside The couch in the long time ago, Whereon our mother died.

With some of us she's still this side The border line of life. Braving the strenuous, passing tide Of duty, stress and strife. For such a splendid chance to show Some gratitude for her Forbearance in the long ago And all her tender care.

The measure of a mother's love No offspring e'er can know. No plume of glory, height above. Ever touched its depth below. To God only its bounds are known. Its breadth and depth and height. And He compares it to His own Love for the sons of light.

Pity the man this Mothers' Day Who carries in his side A then he cannot get away. Since his sweet mother died. Reminding him of pain he gave That mother and the part He had sealed her to her grave After breaking her heart.

D. H. KENNEY. 2020 Poplar, Philadelphia, May 11, 1913.

### A Summer Night.

The yellow moon is hanging A crescent in the west. A gleam of pale light shedding On valley, hill and crest; The whippoorwill is calling. From out his nightly haunt. The shadow-forms move silent. The spreading branches 'neath— 'Tis perfect quite. A summer night.

The myriad stars are twinkling From out the dusky sky; As each is westward passing A gleam of kindly eye. The rose-bush by the gateway With petals full of dew. Their hazy light reflecting Lends night a brighter hue— Enchanting quite. A summer night.

The softest whispers falling Upon the listening ear. A hush of power unfolding. The life of Age renews. And points the path to glories Where Youth has but to choose— Reviving quite. A summer night. FRANK MONROE BEVERLY. Freeling.

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